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Control: 4313
Rec'd: September 12, 1953
3:15 p.m.

FROM: Tripoli

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 85, September 11, 6 p.m.

SENT DEPARTMENT 85; REPEATED INFORMATION BENGHAZI UNNUMBERED.

Department's Circular Airgram 119, September 2.

Maximum quantity relief grain expected to be purchased by Libya this FY 15,000 tons barley, available sterling area at about $56.50 per ton CIF. Normal wheat imports about 17,000 tons per year from no (repeat no) regular source though bought in sterling if possible. Purchase of portion or all this amount from US surplus worth considering. Type preferred is Manitoba number 3. Current price about $90 per ton. If Libyans know that the fund derived from payments for purchase of US surplus, grains would not (repeat not) reduce the amounts now allocated to Libya Point IV, but constitute additional fund to cover local cost FOA and other approved development projects. Legation believes they would be quick to purchase US barley and wheat.

SUMMERS

RSP:MRS/6

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